



**HELPING COMMUNITIES INVEST TODAY FOR A MORE LIVABLE TOMORROW**

## **Sustainable Maryland**

is a free and voluntary certification program for municipalities in Maryland that want to go green, save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life.

The mission of Sustainable Maryland is to enhance livability for all Marylanders by helping municipalities choose a direction for their sustainability efforts, improve access to resources needed to implement action, measure their progress, and gain recognition for their accomplishments.

### **Sustainable Maryland helps communities:**

- Gain access to training, tools, funding, and expert guidance;
- Save money and improve the bottom line;
- Conserve resources while promoting community resiliency.

### **Sustainable Maryland features:**

- Free and voluntary program that makes participation easy and accessible
- Comprehensive vision that helps communities plan across multiple priorities
- Customizable menu of concrete actions, allowing communities to select initiatives that best fit their specific needs
- Statewide recognition of certified communities' accomplishments

### **Getting Started**

Please visit the Sustainable Maryland website, [www.sustainablemaryland.com](http://www.sustainablemaryland.com), to learn more about the program and how to begin the process of certification. The list of sustainability actions and implementation tools available for your community to consider adopting are provided and explained in detail on the website.

To initiate the certification process, municipalities need to adopt a resolution, ordinance, or proclamation or draft a formal letter stating intent to pursue Sustainable Maryland certification and then register on the website. After registration, municipalities are strongly encouraged to participate in Green Team Training. To achieve certification, municipalities will need to implement the necessary actions to qualify and submit the appropriate documents as evidence that satisfies the Sustainable Maryland requirements.

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## Actions for Sustainable Communities:

To become Sustainable Maryland Certified, municipalities must complete and document actions from the list below. To achieve certification, municipalities will need to complete actions worth a **total of 150 points**, including **two Mandatory Actions (M)** and **two of six Priority Actions (P)**, and submit the appropriate documents as evidence that the requirements have been satisfied.

ACTION ITEM	POINTS
<b>COMMUNITY ACTION</b>	
<b>Green Team</b>	
Participate in SM Green Team Training	5
Create a Green Team	10 <b>M</b>
Complete a Green Team Action Plan	10 <b>M</b>
Conduct Community Barriers and Benefits Assessment	15
Build SM Resource Center	5
<b>Participation in MD Green Schools</b>	10
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>COMMUNITY-BASED FOOD SYSTEM</b>	
<b>Local Food Consumption</b>	
Local Food Fair	10
Local Food Consumption & Preservation Classes	5 per class
Establish Local Farmers Market	15
Promote Local Farmers Market	5
<b>Local Food Production</b>	
Community Gardens	15 <b>P</b>
Spring Transplant Sale	10
Fall Transplant Sale	10
<b>Establish CSA Drop-off Location</b>	10
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>ENERGY</b>	
<b>Municipal Energy Audits</b>	10 (1st bldg), 5 (consec bldgs) <b>P</b>
<b>Residential Energy Efficiency</b>	5 to 20+
<b>Wind Energy Project</b>	10
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>GREENHOUSE GAS</b>	
<b>Municipal Carbon Footprint</b>	15 <b>P</b>
<b>Community Carbon Footprint</b>	15
<b>Climate Planning</b>	
Climate Action Plan	10 to 25+
Climate Change Adaptation Element	5
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS</b>	
<b>Let's Move</b>	15
<b>Workplace Wellness</b>	
Join Healthiest Maryland Businesses	5
Workplace Wellness Program	5 to 15
<b>Living Well Program</b>	5 per class
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>LOCAL ECONOMIES</b>	
<b>Buy Local</b>	
Establish Local Business Directory	10
Promote Local Business Directory	5
Buy Local Campaign	15
Local Business Roundtable	5 per roundtable
Local Business Procurement Notices	10
Economic Analysis of Procurement Practices	15
Local Purchasing Preference Policy	10
<b>Green Business Recognition</b>	
Join Maryland Green Registry	5
Promote Maryland Green Registry	5 points per 2 businesses

ACTION ITEM	POINTS
<b>LOCAL ECONOMIES (CONTINUED)</b>	
Green Business Certification Program	15
<b>Green Purchasing</b>	
Green Purchasing Policy	15 <b>P</b>
Evaluate Current Purchasing Practices	10
Vendor Preference Statement	10
Purchase Recycled Products	10
Purchase Environmentally Preferable Products	10
Implement Waste Reduction Program	10
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>NATURAL RESOURCES</b>	
<b>Watershed Stewardship</b>	
Implement Watershed Stewardship/Pollution Prevention Outreach Program(s)	10
Facilitate Engagement in Existing Watershed Stewardship Opportunities	5 per event
Provide Voluntary Opportunities for Citizen Engagement in Watershed Stewardship	10
Provide Incentives for Watershed Stewardship on Private Lands	15
Create a Watershed Plan	20 <b>P</b>
<b>Stormwater Management</b>	
Stormwater Management Program	15 <b>P</b>
Stormwater Manager/Coordinator	15
Stormwater Fee Structure	20
<b>Septic Management</b>	
Septics System Assessment and Inventory	15
Septics System Management Plan	20
Dedicated Septic System Fund	20
<b>Water Conservation</b>	
Develop a Water Conservation Plan	15
Develop a Water Conservation Outreach Program	10
<b>Tree City USA</b>	15
<b>Pet Waste</b>	
Implement a Pet Waste Education Program	5
Develop a Pet Waste Program	5
Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance	5
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20
<b>PLANNING AND LAND USE</b>	
<b>Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities</b>	20
<b>Housing and the Comprehensive Plan</b>	10
<b>Land Preservation</b>	
Conduct Easement Outreach that Encourages Inspection, Evaluation, and Stewardship	15
Build Easement Inventory	10
<b>Innovative Demonstration Projects</b>	5 to 20

P denotes Priority Action M denotes Mandatory Action

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Please note: Sustainable Maryland Certified actions and points may be subject to change.  
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